GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2216
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME
RAMESHWAR DUDI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring certain changes in Agricultural Research and Educational Programmes for increasing and improving the quality of the agricultural production and enhancing the income of the farmers; and

(b) if so, the details about the policy proposed to be adopted by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government`s endeavor has always been towards effecting and implementing changes in the agricultural research and educational programmes. This is with a view to boost agricultural yield, to enhance quality and also for increasing the income of the farmers in the country. For this purpose the Government has evolved a national policy viz., National Agriculture Policy (NAP) which has already been approved by the Parliament. The NAP was approved in July 2000 by the Parliament. The main objectives of the NAP are:

1. A growth rate in excess of 4% per annum in agriculture sector;

2. Growth that is based on efficient use of resources and conserves our soil, water and bio- diversity;

3. Growth with equity, i.e. growth which is widespread across regions and farmers;

4. Growth that is demand driven and caters to domestic markets and maximizes benefits from exports of agricultural products in the face of the challenges arising from economic liberalization and globalization;

5. Growth that is sustainable technologically environmentally and economically.

The policy has covered a wide range of issues associated with Indian Agriculture viz.
(i) sustainability,
(ii) food and nutritional security,
(iii) generation and transfer of technology,
(iv) inputs management,
(v) incentives,
(vi) investment,
(vii) institutional structure,
(viii) risk management and (ix) management reforms.